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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 11 September 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, and further to our earlier letters concerning Israel's repeated attacks on southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa and the arbitrary practices against the local inhabitants in which Israel engages on a daily basis, I have the honour to notify you of the series of such incidents that took place during the second half of July and in August 1996.

17 July 1996

At 2000 hours the environs of Jba' came under fire originating from Israeli positions in the hills opposite. At the same time, Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

18 July 1996

At 1420 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

19 July 1996

At 1600 hours Yatar came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

22 July 1996

At 1700 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

24 July 1996

At 0200 hours Bassam Muhammad Husayn Al-Musawi and Husayn Muhammad Isa received shrapnel wounds after coming under Israeli fire in Qantarah in the Marj Uyun district.

26 July 1996

At 1100 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the Nabatiyah area and numerous overflights of the Iqlim al-Tuffah area. The same aircraft also made low-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

27 July 1996

At 2050 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

At 1255 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

29 July 1996

The environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Ayn Qana, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under artillery bombardment from Israeli positions in the border strip.

30 July 1996

At 2115 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

31 July 1996

At 0900 hours the environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, Jba', the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under artillery bombardment from Israeli positions in the border strip.

At 2235 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

1 August 1996

At 0130 hours Israeli military aircraft made high-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

2 August 1996

The environs of Libbaya, Qulay'ah and Zillaya in the western Bekaa came under Israeli artillery bombardment, which caused a number of fires in the region. No casualties were reported.

At 2200 hours the environs of Jarju', Jba' and Ayn Bu Siwar came under concentrated artillery bombardment from Israeli positions in the border strip.

4 August 1996

At 1400 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew Baalbek and Sidon, breaking the sound barrier.

5 August 1996

At 0715 hours the environs of Tibnin came under Israeli artillery bombardment while Israeli military aircraft made overflights.

At 0940 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of the town and camps at Sidon.

At 0945 hours Israeli military aircraft made medium-altitude overflights of Tyre and dropped heat balloons.

10 August 1996

At 1300 hours the environs of Shaqra, Ayta al-Jabal, Bra'shit, Tibnin and Haris came under Israeli artillery bombardment. No casualties were reported.

At 0700 hours the environs of Majdal Silm, Qabrikha and Tulin came under Israeli artillery bombardment while Israeli helicopters overflew the same area and a number of volleys were fired from various weapons.

11 August 1996

At 1630 hours the environs of Qabrikha, Sawwanah, Majdal Silm, Tulin and Wadi Qaybasah came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

13 August 1996

At 1400 hours the environs of Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, Zawtar al-Gharbiyah, Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr and areas along the Litani river came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

14 August 1996

At 0940 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the town and camps at Sidon.

At 1030 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the Iqlim al-Tuffah area.

15 August 1996

At 1200 hours the environs of Haris in the Bint Jubayl area came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

16 August 1996

At 0530 hours the Mlita hills, Jabal Safi, areas along the Nab'at Tasah and the environs of Ayn Bu Siwar and Jba' came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

20 August 1996

At 0445 hours Zibqin-Tyre came under Israeli artillery bombardment, which caused material damage to a number of dwellings.

At 2100 hours Israeli military aircraft made low-altitude overflights of the Bint Jubayl area and carried out mock attacks.

23 August 1996

At 1500 hours the environs of Arabsalim, Jarju', Ayn Bu Siwar, the Mlita hills and Jabal Safi came under Israeli artillery bombardment.

25 August 1996

At 1245 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the town and camps at Sidon.

26 August 1996

At 0030 hours Israeli military aircraft overflew the town and camps at Sidon.

Israel's persistent refusal to implement Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and its continued occupation of Lebanese territory are perpetuating the cycle of violence.

The Lebanese Government strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation, the fresh attacks and the arbitrary practices directed against the Lebanese population, which have caused further injuries and have inflicted further serious damage to property.

Like previous attacks, this new series is in flagrant violation of the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and constitutes a breach of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and basic human rights.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 44, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Permanent Representative